

Summer  
Term 2023



# Rowan Class

## *To Infinity and Beyond*

### **Welcome to the Summer Term.**

We begin this half term with a topic on historically significant explorers into space.

In **English** lessons, we have begun our creative writing by reading a fiction story entitled "The Darkest Dark". This is written by Chris Hadfield and tells the story of how he became interested in becoming an astronaut.

We have begun writing ideas for how to be less worried about the dark and made up our own sound-scape to illustrate a picture. Sound-scapes are explored further in our computing learning, as we have been listening to Holst Planet suite and will be having a go at composing our own space-themed music on the computer.

In a few weeks the children will be using the Kiddle search engine to research astronauts so that they can use the information to write fact sheets. This supports the **historical** aspect of our topic, where we will find out about the first landing on the moon in 1969.

Safe-internet searching is key when we are using the internet and the children are reminded frequently about how to stay safe on the internet.

**P.E.** This term, **P.E.** days will be every Friday, working on athletics skills and defending games. We have Forest Schools on a Thursday. When this has finished, we will resume our Wednesday PE day.



Working **scientifically** - we are set to have some fun space-themed experiments and investigations to enjoy. We also have a learning focus on 'Materials' and will learn about how we can use materials in different ways and how we can use different materials for the same purpose.

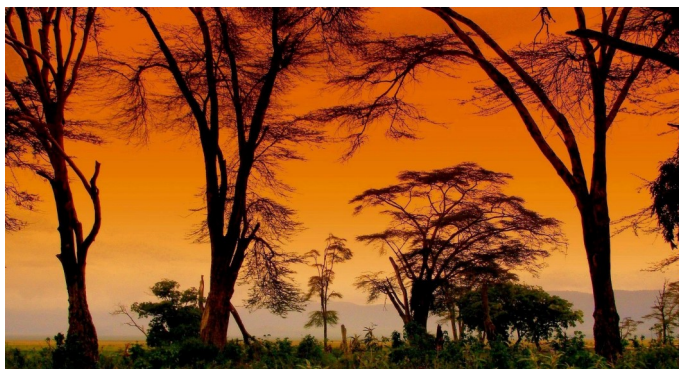
Aliens landed in the classroom in the first week of term, when, in art, each child designed and created their own alien creature. Chris Hadfield, as a child, always wondered what aliens might look like. If you are wondering too, look no further than Rowan classroom. They are on their way to their forever homes very soon!

We will explore our creativity by colour mixing and using recycled materials to make more artistic creations as we proceed through this half term.

### **Maths**

This half term our main learning is FRACTIONS. We have begun with recognition of halves and quarters. The learning begins with finding out what a fraction looks like in a shape and continues onto fractions of a quantity.

**R.E.** In **R.E.**, the children will learn about how being Jewish can make a difference to family life and celebrations compared to those of the Christian religion.

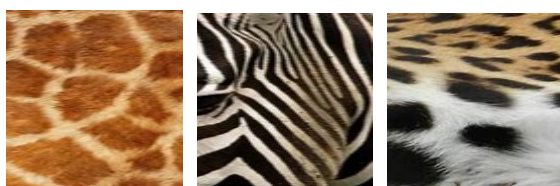


# Into Africa

After half term, a (virtual) trip to Africa is planned, as we explore a continent to contrast our own.

Our **Geography** learning will look at the vast diversity that Africa has to offer, with a key focus on the country of Kenya.

Researching information about the Big Five, population and cultural diversity, food, music and dance, we will be comparing how different life is to living in the UK. Our findings will be recorded in English lessons within poetry, narratives and fact-files.



**Computing**—We look forward to creating some scratch animations exploring algorithms.

## Maths

Our final half term will be concentrating on graphs and telling the time. We will also be reviewing all the learning achieved this year to consolidate and challenge the many mathematical topics covered.

*In Art, patterns in nature will be a focus, along with scenes depicting life in Africa. Over the year we have experienced a variety of media in art, and this will continue this half term. We will also be learning about the artist— Alma Thomas and exploring colour-mixing.*

*With a learning focus of sewing in **Design Technology**, we look forward to practicing some techniques to create an African themed wall-hanging.*

Please keep reading with your child.

Experiencing reading aloud as well as listening to an adult read is invaluable to every child.

We celebrate in class through our “Reading Road” how often the children read at home.

*Last...but not least...*



Keep practicing spelling . The weekly spellings are on the homework. And we practice them almost everyday in school too.

You can also practice maths using Numbots.

We have been impressed with the engagement in homework. Any additional learning will also be celebrated in class. For example if your child wishes to find out more about space or Africa (in the relevant half terms) feel free to bring your ‘mini-projects’ into school.